

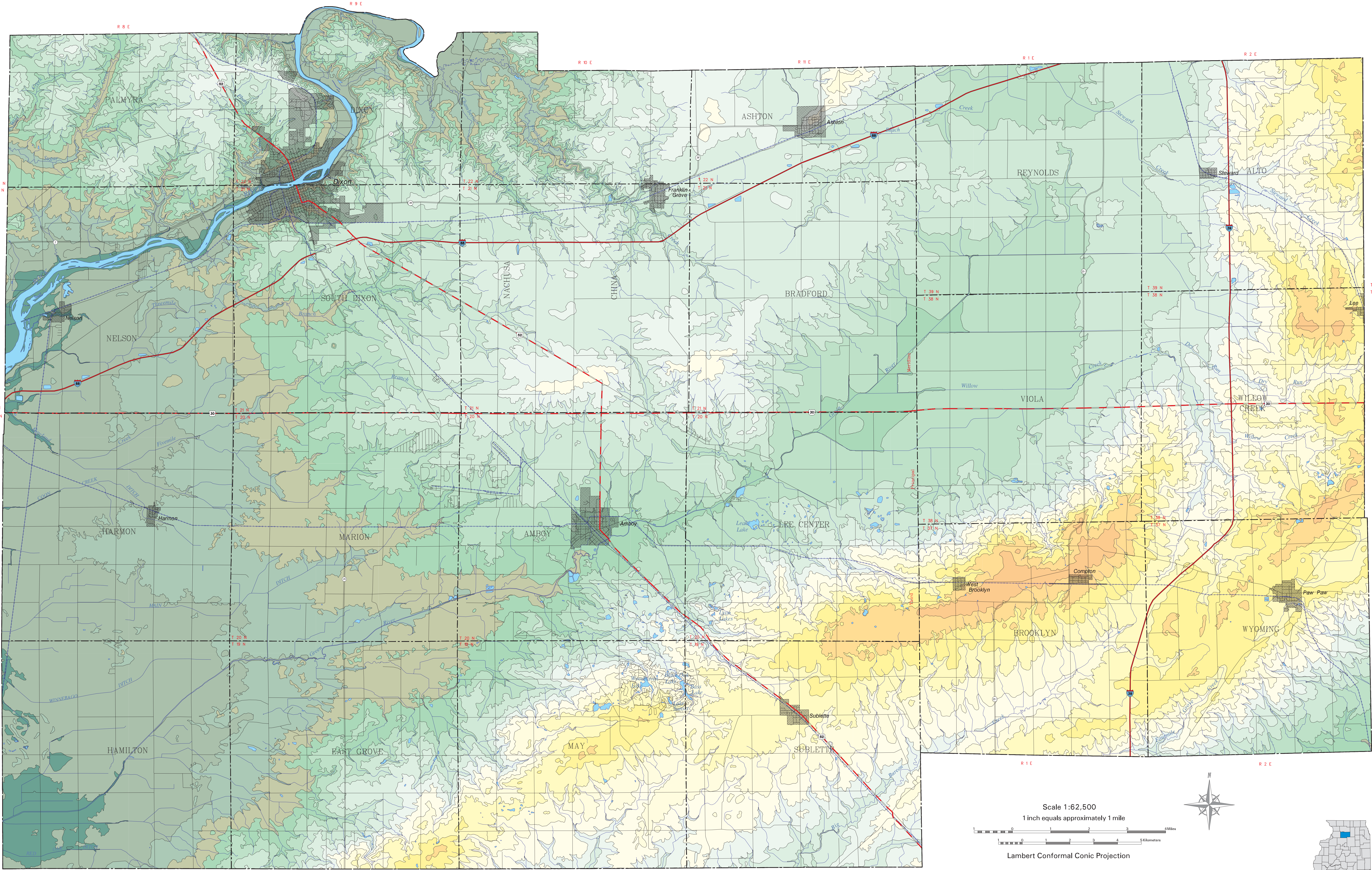
Illinois State Geological Survey  
William W. Shilts, Chief  
Champaign

# Surface Topography of Lee County, Illinois

Compiled by Renee J. Nagy

1999

State of Illinois  
Department of Natural Resources



**Explanation**

This map shows the land surface topography of Lee County, Illinois, from slightly greater than 1000 feet above mean sea level (MSL) to 650 feet above MSL. Lee County is situated within the Till Plains Section of the Central Lowland Physiographic Province (Leighton, et al., 1948), which is flat to gently undulating glacial terrain. Three distinct subdivisional sections are present in Lee County and include the Rock River Hill River Lowland, and the Bloomington Ridge Plain (Leighton, et al., 1948). Their boundaries within Lee County are shown on Inset A.

The northwestern and north-central portion of the county lie within the Rock River Hill Country. This area is typically underlain by a thin veneer of glacial bedrock. Consequently, the topography of the Rock River Hill Country is primarily determined by the bedrock surface (Leighton et al., 1948). The Green River Lowland extends across the central portion of the county along the Green River. The western portion of Lee County. The Green River Lowland is a low, poorly drained, outwash plain containing sand ridges and dunes (Leighton et al., 1948). Surface elevations are present in the Green River Lowland in south where elevations lower than 650 feet MSL are encountered. The portions of the county lie within the Bloomington Ridge Plain (Leighton et al., 1948). This area is characterized by the broad ridge of the Bloomington moraine, which is a thick glacial till deposited approximately 20,000 to 17,000 years ago. A moraine at an approximate elevation of 900 to 950 feet above MSL is located on this ridge 0.7 miles north of Compton, where elevations slightly higher than 1000 feet above MSL. An east-west trending ridge, called Temperance Hill, is located in north-central Lee County. Temperance Hill, is the remnant of an Illinoian age moraine (Berger, 1985) deposited prior to 125,000 years ago (Killeen, 1998).

This map was compiled from Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) files of the United States Geological Survey using ArcView. The information used to create additional maps depicting shaded relief, drift thickness, and bedrock surface topography. The use of trade names or brand names does not constitute an endorsement by the Illinois State Geological Survey.

**Acknowledgments**

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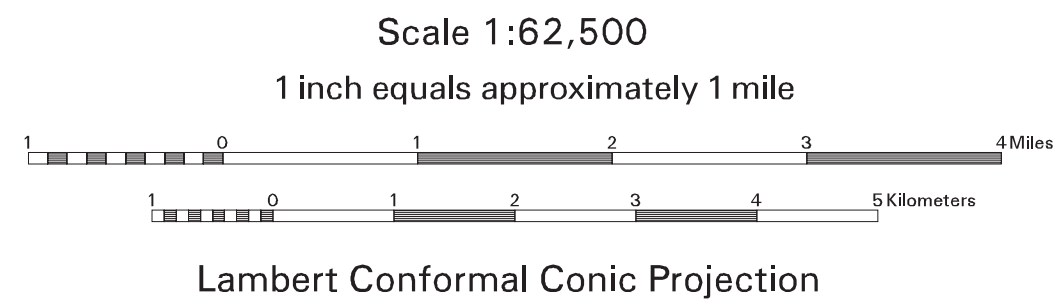
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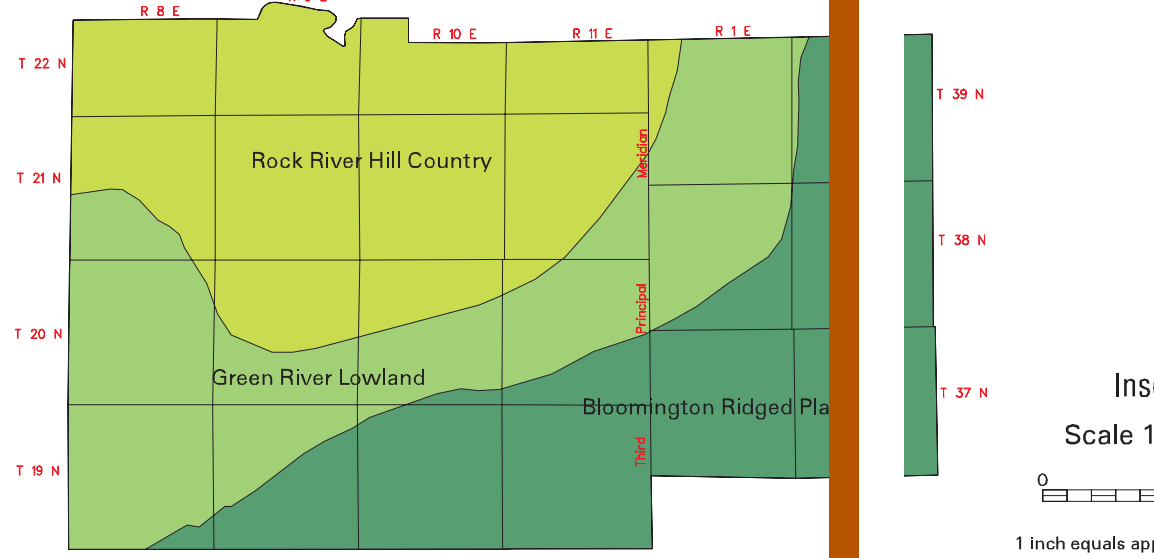
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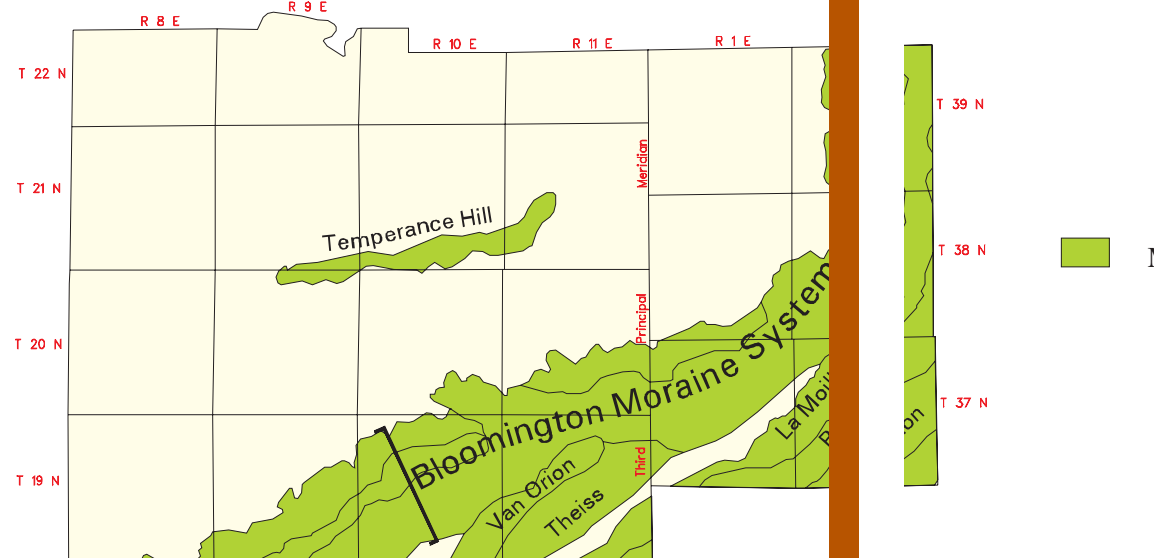
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**Inset A. Physiographic Divisions of Lee County, Illinois**  
modified from Leighton et al., 1948



**Inset B. Glacial Moraines of Lee County, Illinois**  
modified from Willman and Frerking, 1970



This map was prepared by the Illinois State Geological Survey, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Lee County. It is part of a series of maps created to assist local government in addressing geologic questions concerning land use planning purposes. Maps produced for this series are intended for detailed mapping and are not intended for detailed mapping or site specific consideration. This map has been reviewed for scientific accuracy and quality standards of maps in the ISGS Series.